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WILL MAKE BEST OF IT.

Vessel Owners Calm on Bait License Revocation.

MATTER DISCUSSED BUT LITTLE.

Washington Receives Official Notification of Action.

The action of the Newfoundland authorities in deciding not to continue its custom of selling bait licenses to American fishing vessels, the first news of which was received here yesterday in a press despatch, has failed to create any consternation among the fishing interest here, and beyond a little expressed surprise at the action there has been no talk on the matter except in a very general way. The situation has been met with calmness and no talk has been made.

At the Board of Trade rooms, where in the evenings all matters of serious import are made the subject of general conversation, there was little or no talk on the matter and very few of the members were around.

There is a feeling that talk is of no use and that the only thing to do is to accept the situation and meet it in the best manner possible.

Those who think or have been led by erroneous reports to believe that this action will entirely deprive the salt bank fleet from securing bait throughout the season will perhaps be surprised to learn that such is not the case. There is no denying the fact that this action will at certain times during the banking season discommode the vessels in securing baitings, particularly during caplin time.

But on this question of baiting at Newfoundland there are in this port, strange as it may seem to the outside world, which has none too much knowledge of the ins and outs of the business, men in the fish business, who say now as ever have said repeatedly for several years that if Gloucester vessels had never seen Newfoundland or never been there, Gloucester would have been thousands of dollars better off in the last decade.

One of the gentlemen who holds this opinion is a man who owns an extra large fleet of bankers, and one who probably is as well

posted on the fisheries of this port as any living man. From this it can be seen that Gloucester has no intention of shutting up shop or lying down to die because of this latest prohibitive edict of Newfoundland.

Coming as it does at such short notice, or rather with no notice, nobody denies but that it will for a while and in a measure bother the bankers, but Gloucester has met situations before and solved the problem, and those who know the calibre of the men who own, command and man the vessels, know that she will solve this problem.

A Washington dispatch of yesterday says:

"Official notice has been received by the state department of the decision of the government of Newfoundland to revoke the privileges so long enjoyed by American fishermen of buying bait and fishing in Newfoundland waters. The treaty of 1818 did not include the shore fisheries of Newfoundland within the waters opened to American fishermen, so that this privilege has been enjoyed by the Americans by sufferance and the good will of the Newfoundlanders."

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A St. John's, N. F., dispatch of yesterday says that a meeting of the principle fishery merchants of the colony, headed by Hon. Edgar Lowring and Sir Robert Thorburn, has unanimously endorsed the government's action in enforcing the bait act against Americans.

Leonard A. Treat, of the Boston wholesale fish dealers, was asked how the new retaliatory move on the part of Newfoundland would affect the American fishing trade.

"A Gloucester fisherman told me the other day that it would not be so much of a detriment to the trade as the Newfoundlanders had hoped. I think that to people outside of the fishing interests it will look like a severe blow. Possibly the fishermen are putting up a bluff. At any rate it will be interesting to see the result."

"It has been the claim of the fishermen that they could get along without the fresh bait from Newfoundland. Of course they can take bait from their home port and can fish more or less successfully with salt bait—that is bait salted down before sailing. They can catch some bait on the banks for themselves. But after all there is nothing that enables a fisherman to get a fare so quickly and so large as the fresh herring bait to be obtained at Newfoundland."

"I don't see how we can retaliate. Newfoundland of course wanted to send her salt fish to Porto Rico. The senate practically spoiled all benefit to her under the Hay-Bond arrangement. This is her answer. She probably hopes to bring us to terms."

"There is a part of the coast of Newfoundland containing a number of seaports, where we have treaty rights, which even Newfoundland cannot abrogate. But unfortunately, at the time when the fishing on the grand banks is best the herring are not to be obtained at these ports."

"Of course there are other fishing grounds. Whether the fishermen can make good their statement that they can get along without the help of fresh herring from Newfoundland will be now in a fair way to be settled."

GIVES ITS REASONS.

Lengthy Report of Fishery Bureau to Navy Dep't.

RELATIVE TO BIG GUN FIRING.

And Its Effect on Fishing Out Around Gay Head.

Secretary Metcalf of the Department of Commerce and Labor has sent to the secretary of the navy a report made by the Bureau of Fisheries on the effect of target practice upon fishing in the vicinity of Gay Head.

Petitions were recently sent to the Massachusetts senators and members asking them to use their influence to secure the discontinuance of target practice, as it was supposed to drive the fish away from their usual grounds.

The report, which has been made public, says the variation in abundance of fish during the years immediately preceding are such as occur normally.

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The report continues to say that, in the immediate vicinity of the warships during the gun firing fishing would undoubtedly be interrupted, but it would be contrary to all experience if fishes, frightened by the noise and shock, remained away from favorite grounds after the conclusion of the disturbance."

The commission says that "in view of the exceptional advantages afforded by the Gay Head grounds and the short time covered by the work, it is believed by this department that the navy department would be justified in continuing to use those grounds for the purpose in question until it shall have been definitely established that the fisheries are suffering injury thereby."

A letter from Prof. George H. Parker of Harvard to the bureau of fisheries is appended in which the statement is made: "Since the discharge of heavy fire-arms on war vessels produces vibrations in the water that would vigorously stimulate probably both colors and the lateral-line organs of fishes, and since this stimulus, even when slight, drives the fishes away. I believe that the grounds stated in

the two petitions referred to above are well taken and that the petitions deserve serious consideration."

He says he would hazard the guess that from the firing of a big gun the fish would be influenced for a distance of half a mile, and possibly more, but he adds that this is a mere guess.

Secretary Metcalf's report also contains these points:

"The statistical and other data available fail to show that the abundance and the catch of fish in southern Massachusetts in 1903 and 1904 were so strikingly different from previous years as to warrant the belief that target practice was having any influence. On this point is offered the facts that the catch of swordfish off Morman's sound in 1903 was good, and in 1904 much better, the fishing being the best ever known there, that the quantity of fish taken on Nantucket shoal in 1903 was smaller than in any of the eight preceding years, while the quantity in 1904 was the largest since 1895; that a test pound net in Buzzard's bay, near Woods Hole, shows that the best catch of fish was in one of the years when there was target practice, 1903, and that the catch for 1904 was but little less; that the catch of bluefish in Buzzard's bay has been steadily declining for eight or ten years, and that the catch of mackerel was large in 1902 and poor in 1903."

"The aggregate yield gives no evidence of any general diminution in the abundance of those fishes which are liable to be affected by gun firing, and the stationary net fishing which is closest to the warships is that conducted with pound nets on the western side of Martha's Vineyard, particularly in Menemsha bight, and the department is informed that the fishermen in that place have no complaint and that their catch has not been unfavorably affected. The superintendent of the fisheries station at Woods Hole reports to that effect. He also reports a few think the hand line mackerel fishery in the fall may have been influenced to some extent by the use of the heavy guns."

"If the gun firing has any effect on the spawning of fishes, such effects would be vastly more injurious prior to July 1, before which time coastwise residents ask that firing be done, than during September."

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WRECKED CREW HOME.

Men of Sch. Hazel Oneita Arrived Last Night.

Vessel Struck Whitenough Ledge During Thick Fog.

Capt. James Bowie and the crew of the lost schooner Hazel Oneita arrived home yesterday afternoon, being furnished with free transportation on the steamer City of Gloucester from Boston, by Agent Edward S. Merchant.

The vessel, which had been fishing on the Peak, left that spot for home a week ago last Friday with a fine fare of 90,000 pounds of fresh and salted codfish. Bad weather was met and as the Cape Shore was reached a dense fog was encountered and the storm subsided.

Capt. James Bowie of sch. Hazel Oneita, in speaking of the accident said that it happened Sunday morning during a thick fog. They were bound home with a good trip and had stood in and made the land at Cape Sable. He then tacked and stood off shore and had gone about a mile when the vessel struck something. She did not stop but kept right along and at first it was thought she was not damaged, but an examination forward caused them to hear the water rushing in and when the trap was lifted it was found to be within a few inches of the floor.

The pumps were quickly manned and the vessel headed in shore, but it soon became evident that nothing could save her and that it was impossible to keep her afloat. The dories were put out astern and the men hastily gathered up what they could of their belongings and made ready to leave. Three of the men would not wait for the others but left at once and rowed about in the fog and reached shore.

Capt. Bowie and the others hung on until the vessel became unmanageable and then left her, but hung by and saw her go down a few minutes after. Then they rowed to land. Capt. Bowie says that when the vessel struck she was going at a good clip and that whatever they struck did not stop the vessel. He says there are some sharp ledges in that vicinity and believes that probably the vessel struck one of these.

The vessel's keel did not strike the obstruction at all, but the point of contact was under body near the foreirriging where the hole was made. The spot where the vessel struck was from two and a half to three miles off shore.

The men then rowed three miles to Stony Island where they were finely cared for by the people there. From there they proceeded to Barrington and thence to Yarmouth where they were taken in charge by the United States Consul and sent home on the steamer Boston, which arrived at Boston yesterday.

Besides Capt. Bowie the men brought to Boston by the Boston were Charles Fairweather, cook; Stephen Wharton, Scott Crowell, James Scott, Robert May, Robert Spinney, Charles Colson, Richard Welch, Patrick Drakes, John Sutherland, John Meisner, Thomas Calvin, Frank Boudrot and John McPherson. There were also four others in the crew, who remained in Nova Scotia.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Ida S. Brooks, shore.
Sch. Walter P. Goulart, shore.
Sch. George H. Lube, shore.
Sch. Evelyn L. Smith, shore.
Sch. Flavilla, shore.
Sch. Manomet, shore.
Sch. Elmer E. Gray, via Boston.
Sch. Henrietta G. Martin, shore.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, shore.
Sch. Galatea, shore.
Sch. Catherine D. Enos, shore.
Sch. Pythian, shore.
Sch. Hattie F. Knowlton, shore.
Sch. Viking shore.

Today's Fish Market.

Board of Trade prices for salt and fresh fish:

Salt fish, handline Georges cod, \$5.00 per cwt. for large, \$4.00 for medium; trawl Georges cod, \$4.25 for large, \$3.25 for medium; trawl Bank cod, \$4.00 for large, \$3.50 for medium; hake, \$1.25; pollock, \$1.25; haddock, \$1.75; large cusk, \$2.50.

Fresh fish, large cod, \$2.50; medium cod, \$2.00; all cod caught to the eastward of La-Have bank, \$2.25, medium \$1.75; cusk, \$1.75; Eastern haddock, \$1.25; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, 70c; snapper codfish, 60 cts.; snapper cusk, 60 cts.

Outside sales salt Georges cod, \$5.50 per cwt. for large and \$5.00 for mediums.

Outside sales fresh hake, \$1.00.

Outside sales fresh haddock to split, \$1.35.

Bank halibut, 11 cts. per pound for white and 9 cts. for gray.

Boston.

Sch. Mary T. Fallon, 15,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 12,000 hake, 5000 cusk.

Sch. Carrie F. Roberts, 1200 haddock.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Jennie B. Hodgdon was at Liverpool on Wednesday.

WEEKLY FISH MARKET.

The fish trade the past week has been dull, being about what the shippers expect at this season. Prices however remain high and firm. Salt mackerel are in demand at large figures but there are but few in first hands. Salt codfish is quiet but prices remain very firm. The fresh fish market has been well supplied and several fares have come here from Boston and gone to the splitters. The first of the southern mackerel seining fleet has sailed and nothing but the recent snowstorm and the present bad weather prevents many more from sailing right away. The news that Newfoundland will not sell bait licenses to American bankers, has been received very calmly here and the vessels owners feel confident that whatever trouble it may cause some of the salt bank fleet when caplin aiting time comes, that it will be only temporary.

The receipts at this port for the week ending March 25 are

357,000 lbs. fresh cod.
18,000 lbs. hake.
285,000 lbs. haddock.
43,000 lbs. halibut.
10,000 lbs. cusk.
75,000 lbs. salt cod.

Salt Fish from Vessel.

| | Board of Trade Prices | Outside Sales |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| Large Georges cod (handline) | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| Medium Georges cod (handline) | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| Large Georges cod (trawl) | 4.25 | 4.25 |
| Medium Georges cod (trawl) | 3.25 | 3.25 |
| Large handline cod from deck caught east of Cape Sable | | |
| Medium do. | | |
| Large trawl bank cod | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| Medium trawl bank cod | 3.50 | 3.50 |
| Large dory handline cod | | |
| Medium do. | | |

Fresh Fish from Vessel (To Split)

| | | |
|--|------|------|
| All large cod caught on La Have bank and to the westward | 2.50 | 2.50 |
| Medium do. | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| All large cod caught to the eastward of La Have Bank | 2.25 | 2.25 |
| Medium do. | 1.75 | 1.75 |
| Cusk | 1.75 | 1.75 |
| Eastern Haddock | 1.25 | 1.25 |
| Western Haddock | 1.25 | 1.25 |
| Eastern Hake | .90 | .90 |
| Western hake, | .90 | .90 |
| Pollock | .70 | .70 |

Other Prices from Vessel.

Hake sounds, 4 cts. per lb.
Livers, soft 30 cts. per bucket; hard, 30 cts. per bucket.
Fresh Bank halibut (white) 10 cts. per lb.
Fresh Bank halibut (gray) 8 cts. per lb.
Georges halibut, 10 cts. and 8 cts. per lb. for white and gray.

Local Quotations of Cured Fish.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cured Large Georges cod | \$7.50 to 8.00 per qtl. |
| Cured Medium Georges cod | 6.50 |
| Cured large Bank cod | 6.50 |
| Cured Medium Bank cod | 6.00 |
| Kench cured large Bank cod | 7.00 |
| Kench cured medium Bank cod | 6.50 |
| Cured large shore cod | 7.00 |
| Cured medium shore cod | 6.00 |
| Cured cusk | 5.50 |
| Cured hake | 2.25 |
| Cured haddock | 4.00 |
| Heavy salted pollock | 2.75 |
| English cured pollock | 3.75 |
| Large handline bank | 7.00 |
| Medium handline bank | 6.00 |

Mackerel.

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Shore 1s | \$18 | per bbl. |
| Shore extra 1s | 20 | per bbl. |
| Shore bloaters | 30 | per bbl. |
| Nova Scotias | 13.50 | per bbl. |
| Prince Edward Island | 15 | per bbl. |
| Norway bloaters | 34 | per bbl. |
| Norway 1s | 30 | per bbl. |
| Norway 2s | 25 | per bbl. |
| New Irish | 14 to 15 | per bbl. |

COLD STORAGE PLANT.

One To Be Located in This City as Soon as Possible.

Movement Will Undoubtedly Be Successful.

There is every possibility that a cold storage plant will be located in this city in the near future for the preservation of bait. The movement for the plant is the direct outcome of the reported attitude of Newfoundland in regard to the American fishing vessels.

The promoters of the enterprise will have little to say at present in regard to the project, but it is understood that a company will be organized with a capital stock of \$250,000. and that Gloucester and Boston men will form the company. The American Halibut Company's wharf, it is understood, will be taken for the plant, and vessels suitable for the storage of bait will be built for the company.

Those who are interested in the movement say there is no doubt of its success, and claim that the plant will be a great thing for the fishing interests and should have been started long ago.